

- 3) The process of claim 1 wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of nucleic acids, [proteins, ]genes, [antisense polymers, ]DNA/RNA hybrids, synthetic polymers.
- 6) The process of claim 1 [2] wherein the [first] polymer comprises a nucleic acid.
- 7) The process of claim 16] wherein the [second polymer] associated polymer and chelator consists of [comprises] a net [positive] charge selected from the group consisting of positive, neutral and negative.
- 8) The process of claim 7 wherein the chelator consists of [comprises] polyamine.
- 9) The process of claim 1 further comprising associating a chelator with a polymer and a signal for targeting the polymer.
- 10) [A process for compacting a nucleic acid for delivery to a cell, comprising: associating a polychelator with a nucleic acid.]

A process for delivering a polymer to a cell, in vivo, comprising:

- a) forming a polychelator by covalently polymerizing chelator monomers;
- b) electrostatically associating the polychelator with the polymer to form a complex;
- c) delivering the polymer to the cell; and,
- d) expressing the polymer.
- 11) [The complex of claim 10 wherein associating a polychelator further comprises associating a polychelator and a salt and a nucleid acid.]

The process of claim 10 wherein the polymer consists of nucleic acid and is condensed by associating the polychelator, nucleic acid and a salt.

- 12) [A complex for delivering a compound to a cell, comprising:
  - a) a nucleic acid;
  - b) a polychelator; and,

c) an ion.]

A process for delivering a polymer to a cell, comprising:

- a) electrostatically associating a polychelator to the polymer;
- b) recharging the polychelator to change the net charge; and,
- c) delivering the polymer to the cell, in vivo.

13) [The complex of claim 12 wherein the complex is less than 500 nanometers in diameter.]

The process of claim 12 wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of nucleic acids, proteins, genes, antisense polymers, DNA/RNA hybrids, synthetic polymers.

- 14) The process of claim 13 wherein the polymer consists of a nucleic acid.
- 15) The process of claim 13 wherein the polychelator comprises a crown ether system.
- 16) The process of claim 12 wherein the associated polymer-polychelator comprises a net charge selected from the group consisting of positive, neutral and negative.

17) The process of claim 13 wherein a signal for targeting the polymer is attached to the chelator or polymer.

- 18) A process for delivering a nucleic acid to a cell, in vivo, comprising:
  - a) non-covalently associating a chelator with a nucleic acid to form a complex;
  - b) inserting the complex in vivo; and,
  - c) removing the chelator from the nucleic acid that is delivered to the cell.
- 19) A process for delivering a polymer to a cell comprising:
  - a. forming a complex consisting of an expressible polymer and a non-expressible polymer;
  - b. chelating the non-expressible polymer; and,
  - b. delivering the expressible polymer to the cell.

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